



**State of Arizona**

**Janice K. Brewer**  
Governor

**Office of the Governor**  
1700 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007

**Main Phone: 602-542-4331**  
**Facsimile: 602-542-7601**

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**CONTACT:** Ann Dockendorff  
(602) 542-7029  
[ADockendorff@az.gov](mailto:ADockendorff@az.gov)

**Statement from Governor Jan Brewer**  
*Lowering Flags for Arizona Soldier and Hero, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jonam Russell*

"On behalf of all Arizonans, I extend my sincerest condolences and prayers for the family of a fallen Arizona soldier and American hero. On Tuesday, United States Army 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Jonam Russell, 25, of Cornville, Arizona, gave his life in the line of duty. He was supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in the Wardak Province of Afghanistan when an improvised explosive device detonated near his dismounted patrol. Lt. Russell had been assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, and was based at Fort Stewart, Georgia.

"Lt. Russell's death serves as a sobering reminder of the daily perils our heroes in uniform face while carrying out their duties. For knowingly and selflessly accepting these risks in defense of our nation, they deserve our highest respect.

"Let us offer our eternal gratitude to all of our nation's servicemen and women who have fought – and who continue to fight – for our righteous and just cause. Let our support bring reassurance that their service will never be forgotten, their sacrifices never made in vain. Finally, let our prayers bring comfort to the family of Lt. Russell as they cope with the most difficult grief imaginable.

"In honor of 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jonam Russell, I have ordered that flags at all State buildings be lowered to half-staff until sunset today, July 25, 2013. Additionally, I have ordered that flags again be lowered on the day of his interment, for which services are pending."

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